

Bill HB 5021 defeats small business. It does not foster competition, it eliminates it. If the large box chains come in to the State and can sell a product at less than I can buy it for, the result is obvious. It's an uneven playing field.

Why take away CT jobs, and take the profits out of CT as well. I have wonderful employees, all part-time, who supplement their incomes in order to live in an already expensive state. But they spend their money earned in this State, as do I. Big Box corporations profits are taken out of state. Jobs are lost, revenue is lost.

The governor could double or triple our permit fees for revenue, and for sure we'll work Sundays in this day and age, fair enough, just please don't take our whole livelihood away from us.

We started a petition late yesterday, ~~I should have been doing this much earlier, but in the space of two hours over 50 people signed it.~~ The interesting thing is that every single person said to us that he or she wanted to support small business, that this is what enriched their town, ~~they were for us completely. There was nothing like, oh yeah, you want me to sign it, I'll sign it.~~ They were concerned with the issue.

Marlborough has a population of over 6,000 people, largely families. The town now has no food market - several independent grocers have come and gone, they just can't make it against the Stop and Shop in East Hampton. We also have no pharmacy - again, there is a CVS in East Hampton so no drug-store will come to town. This could very well also be the case with a beautiful wine shop like mine. If I go the way of the market and the drugstore, there's not an awful lot of CT small-town shopping, commerce, left in our town. Small business is gone, and the State goes the way of the Big Box stores ~~calling the shots, doing what they want.~~ *And the American dream dies a little.*

eventually
I also feel that the one permit per 2500 people creates a certain order, rather than permits being moved here, there and everywhere. This works, why take it away.

Our townspeople really want to support small business - why on earth does not our government?

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